

ture. One point is clearly certain: nature would quickly re-establish her balance, and the first factor to be balanced off would be man himself (he would promptly be decimated), for in terms of the biological law of equilibrium man himself has become a veritable plague upon the face of the earth.

"WILD . . . THEORIES"

One so-called "authority" on the "organic way" recently stated in a published book that the development of cancer late in life is induced long before or during the mother's pregnancy, and even earlier perhaps, by her inconsiderate ingestion of foodstuffs treated with additives or fruits and vegetables sprayed with pesticides. From this point he extrapolates his thesis to include the diet of the father also as having a delayed carcinogenic response in the offspring. Surprisingly, the "eminent doctor" failed to seize the opportunity to contend that the most effective anticarcinogen, therefore, would be contraception.

Amusing as some of these wild, and obviously untested, theories of farming are, unfortunately it has now become a very serious matter. The immense strides taken by agricultural science in America have effected a highly significant political shift in the interests and livelihood of the electorate. One hundred years ago one farmer fed himself and three others; today he feeds himself and twenty-four others. These surplus non-agricultural peoples are those who have made our industries, our education, our research and our culture flourish. This has given America its power, but it has also inflated our cities and suburbs and proportionately reduced our rural peoples concerned with farming. The result is that the American farmer is rapidly becoming a political minority by dint of his own industry and competence. At the same time, forces are appearing in our Federal and State legislative bodies which, pressured by uninformed but vociferous groups, are introducing legislation that can contribute virtually nothing to the welfare of our people as a whole and concomitantly severely harass our farmers and impede the progress of our agriculture.

OTHER BILLS ENACTED

The Delaney Clause, discussed above, is a case in point. The Sherman Cooper Bill relating to the use of animals in research is another. There have been similar bills considered and passed by State legislatures, and generally hastily rescinded in confusion. One required a farmer or feed dealer to secure a veterinarian's prescription each time he supplemented a batch of mixed feed with a sulfonamide drug; another required that each crate or box of packed vegetables or fruit would have an adhering sticker that listed all the agricultural chemicals (by generic name) employed in the raising of